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lar verb, which undergoes *eleven* inflexions, besides the personal terminations should be conjugated through five moods, and *four* tenses; when it is considered that many of the ablest grammarians, inflect the English verb through five moods, and *six* tenses, though it undergoes only *three* variations. The very different form assumed by several verbs, when used affirmatively, negatively, and interrogatively, suggested the propriety of exhibiting them at large. Indeed copiousness has been my object throughout; as I conceived it more useful to publish a book which a man might consult, than one that a child might get by rote. I believe the scheme of Irish verbs exhibited at pages 62, and 66, is more *concise*, and complete than any thing published before on the same subject.

But the most singular sentence in the review is the following. "The work also contains *some* familiar dialogues which will be useful to the student, and a translation of the songs of Deardra, from the death of the three sons of Usna. If these were intended for an exercise to learners, they are too loosely translated."

Whether the incorrect punctuation here be *intentional* or not, I cannot determine; but it certainly implies that the translation of the dialogues, &c. (comprising 84 pages, on a variety of subjects) and that of the *three* songs is equally free. This is incorrect. The former are translated with great closeness; the latter with that freedom which is observed in the most elegant translations.

The standard of orthography, which I have always followed, is the Irish Bible, published nearly 130 years ago, by bishop Bedel. When a better shall be invented, I shall readily adopt it; in the mean time, it is sufficient to observe that the ancient manuscripts afford no *one* such standard

I am sir, yours &c.

Dundalk, May 5, 1809. W. NEILSON.

P. S. I forbear to make any remarks upon the anonymous grammar recently published; as I think the compiler of one grammar not the most proper person to review the similar work of another.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE COMPARATIVE STRENGTH BARILLA AND POTASH.

I AM pleased to find that your Magazine gives an account of the new discoveries in chemistry, and thus may serve as a literary journal of the progress in the sciences and the arts, after the model of the most respectable British Magazines—a line hitherto very seldom attempted in Ireland, but in which I trust you will persevere. You must frequently borrow from brother Journalists, who live nearer to the sources of intelligence; but when you candidly acknowledge your obligations, all is fair. Practical communications on subjects relating to the staple manufacture of Ireland, particularly that part of it so closely connected with chemistry, might be very serviceable. To contribute my share, and in hopes of drawing forth similar contributions from others, I send an account of some experiments lately made at my bleach-green on the comparative of barilla and potash by means of the alkaline hydrometer, graduated so, that 0 stands for water and $3\frac{1}{4}$ to 4 denotes the strength used for the ley in bleaching. An equal weight of the following alkalies, dissolved in similar quantities of water, produced the following results:

Barilla,.....	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Montreal Potash, ..	$6\frac{1}{2}$
New York ditto. ..	$6\frac{1}{4}$

Or in round numbers the comparative strength of those materials was in the following proportion, and consequent value in bleaching viz.

Barilla,.....	15
Montreal Potash, ..	26
New York ditto. ..	25

So that as an efficacious material in bleaching, barilla does not appear to be worth more than three fifths of the value of potash. K.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE HERRING,

Concluded from p. 245, No. IX.

THE herring is very much exposed to pursuit; man above all is its particular foe, not only along the coasts, but sometimes even in the open